

How Does One Become a Public Member of a Legislative Council Study Committee?

A list of potential study committees is generally available on the Legislative Council staff website by the first of May of even-numbered years. If you would like to participate as a public member of one of these committees, send a nomination letter. Please include a resume and statement expressing your interest and expertise in the subject area of the study committee of your choice to:

Terry C. Anderson, Director,
Wisconsin Legislative Council,
P.O. Box 2536, Madison, WI,
53701-2536.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Mary Lazich
CO-CHAIR

Senator

Joan Ballweg
CO-CHAIR

Representative

SENATORS

REPRESENTATIVES

Tim Cullen

Peter Barca

Alberta Darling

Terese Berceau

Jon Erpenbach

Jeff Fitzgerald

Scott Fitzgerald

Dean Kaufert

Neal Kedzie

Bill Kramer

Frank Lasee

Cory Mason

Joe Leibham

John Nygren

Mark Miller

Sandy Pasch

Dale Schultz

Scott Suder

Lena Taylor

Robin Vos

Wisconsin Legislative Council

Terry C. Anderson, Director
One East Main Street, Suite 401

P.O. Box 2536

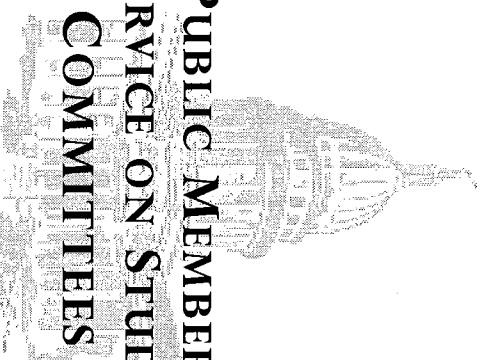
Madison, WI 53701-2536

(608) 266-1304 • (608) 266-3830

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEMBER SERVICE ON STUDY COMMITTEES



608-266-1304

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>

April 2012

Supporting Effective Lawmaking Since 1947

What is the Wisconsin Joint Legislative Council?

The Wisconsin Joint Legislative Council, or Legislative Council, is a 22-member legislative committee established by state law which includes all of the legislative leadership as well as additional legislators. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly, or their appointees, serve as its co-chairs. The Legislative Council is served by the Legislative Council staff, a nonpartisan legislative agency that provides legal services and policy research for legislators and the committees of the Legislature.



What are Legislative Council Study Committees?

During the summer and fall interim of each even-numbered year, the Legislative Council selects a number of subjects for study from suggestions submitted by members of the Legislature. Often these topics are issues that are difficult to resolve in the regular course of legislative business or that legislators feel require further consideration prior to the introduction of legislation. Each subject is appointed a study committee comprised of legislative and public members with expertise or interest in the issue. The study committees are chaired by legislators. Each committee is charged by the Legislative Council to study their issue and recommend legislative solutions as needed. Study committees generally meet anywhere from three to six times during the interim and ultimately report their recommendations, in the form of bill drafts, to the full Legislative Council for approval and introduction in the next legislative session. Committee meetings usually begin mid-morning and continue through the entire day.

Where are Legislative Council Study Committee Meetings Held?

Legislative Council study committees meet in Madison, either in the Capitol or at the Legislative Council staff offices. Occasionally, committees may meet in other parts of the state as the committee chair deems necessary.

Why Serve as a Public Member of a Legislative Council Study Committee?

The study committees provide a unique opportunity for the public to become directly involved in the formulation of public policy. Public members not only participate in meetings, lending their perspective on the issues, they vote on the proposals intended to resolve these issues. Although public members are not paid for their participation on the study committees, they are entitled to receive reimbursement for certain travel expenses, including mileage, parking, meals, and overnight stays, if necessary.